| Learning Conversation Notes  |                         |
|--|-------------------------|
| Name of Partner: Lighthouse<br>Counseling and Family Resource Center | Date: February 26, 2008 |

**Conversation Participants:** Don Ferretti, Nancy Baggett, Cathy Ferron, Janice Critchlow, Judy Marston, Daryl Morales, Angela Ficarra, Trish Gemulla

#### Outcome:

Parents/caregivers demonstrate positive parenting skills and are utilizing community resources so that their children prenatal through 5 are safe and healthy.

#### **Performance Measures:**

- Demographics according to the categories mandated in the First 5 Placer Demographic Tool. In addition the following will be required: number of children served directly, the number of children served indirectly and the number of parents/caregivers served.
- Results of the Early Childhood Outcome Screen completed by clinical staff to measure the degree to which children prenatal through 5 are safe and healthy (to be administered on intake and exit and in 3-month intervals as needed).
- Family Advocates will provide summary reports (number of families being referred to services broken down by agency/service compared with the number of families accessing those services) that measure the utilization of community resources as defined in the case management service plan.
- Pre/post and follow-up surveys to measure parent/caregivers demonstration of positive parenting skills for parents of children prenatal through 5.

| 134  |
|--|
| 95 directly served, 39 indirectly served                   |
| Outstand 07, 0007  |
| October 27, 2007 – February 22, 2008                       |
| Numbers below include both directly and indirectly served. |
| munectly served.   |
| 67   |
| 65   |
|  |
|  |
| 3  |
| 6  |
| 20   |
| 19   |
| 21   |
| 23   |
| 39   |
|  |
|  |
|  |
|  |
|  |

| - Black/African American |    |
|--------------------------|----|
| - Hispanic/Latino        | 98 |
| - Pacific Islander       |    |
| - White                  | 30 |
| - Multiracial            | 6  |
| - Other                  |    |

## What is this data telling us about achievement of outcomes?

## **Demographics**

- There was even distribution of gender and age amongst the children served, however this is not having an adverse affect on the curriculum
- Children showing as over 5 years old in the demographic tool are actually still under 6 years old. (First 5 is working to modify the tool.)
- For this time period, there has been an increase in the number of white parents participating in the parenting classes. Feel this change is due to outreach efforts.
- A high number of Spanish speakers are being served and Lighthouse has increased their bilingual staff to address this issue. Currently 4 of their 8 member staff speak Spanish.
- No parents indicated they had children with special needs.
- The majority of the participants being served are from Lincoln, with only 2 from Sheridan.
   There is no public transportation from Sheridan and the poverty level is much higher making access more difficult.
- There are 95 total parents/caregivers being served, 10 males, 85 females, with the largest age group between the ages of 20-29. The ages of the parents are what you would expect with small children. Lighthouse is reaching a diverse age range of parents. Some of the older caregivers are grandparents.
- Have been seeing more dads coming in during this period, this may be partially due to increased unemployment.

### **Case Management Outcomes**

- Pre/Post outcome screens were available for seven children, 5 families being served.
- With regard to the outcome screen data, every child is at a 3 or higher and therefore is safer and healthier as their parents are seeking help.
- Lighthouse has been providing space for AA and Al-Anon meetings. KIISS will be doing a presentation on the dangers of secondhand smoke in the next month.
- For the seven children that are attached to families that are in case management the children seem to be safe and healthy due to the parents utilizing the case management services and community resources.
- After receiving services their outcome screen scores are improving.

## **Case Management Summary Report**

- The majority of the case management families are utilizing community services when referred.
- There are some basic reasons why families don't utilize the services they are referred to these may include pride, hassle and shame.

# Summary Report for Children Receiving In/Out Type Services (informal or drop-in referrals and services)

- For children served directly and indirectly through in/out services, follow through on
  accessing services referred by the FRC has increased more than 10%. This is believed
  to be attributed to a variety of things including holiday needs, added service providers,
  unemployment (time/transportation), word of mouth and the bilingual resource
  coordinator making personal introductions to class instructors or other service providers.
- Out of the 109 children some families need a service more than once. The biggest service families need to access is services related to meeting their basic need. During this reporting period, families referred for basic needs services followed through 100% of the time.
- Lighthouse staff have looked at the data and noticed the parenting classes and ESL classes are not followed up on as much as the other classes. Lighthouse is addressing

this by upgrading the classes and making personal introductions. The range on referral follow through by the parents is between 50 and 100%.

### **Outcome Screens (Parents of 0-5 in Counseling)**

• The children in these 3 families in crisis needed assistance and after receiving services showed improvement. Lighthouse is bringing in other agencies and services to assist these families in improving their parenting skills.

### **Outcome Screen Results English Speaking Parenting Class**

- English speaking parenting classes are still building enrollment slowly through word of mouth, Placer County referrals, electronic and paper flyers, schedule "options" for class times and childcare reimbursement.
- Parents are generally referred by childcare facilities and are coming in at a higher level
  of parenting skills. Parents are hearing about the class and self-referring. Children are
  coming in safe and healthy and through the parents being in the class are becoming
  safer and healthier independently.

### **Parent Surveys**

- Surveys are administered at the beginning of the class and at the completion of the class for the English speaking parents/caregivers.
- Two English speaking parents from the 0-5 parenting class are demonstrating an increase in positive parenting skills.
- All 6 of the parents with 4-5 year olds in the parenting class for 4-11 year olds also demonstrated an increase in positive parenting skills.

# **Parent Surveys (Spanish Parenting Class)**

- Spanish language surveys are difficult for parents to complete due to low literacy levels.
   They are being conducted in person with the parent.
- The Spanish language survey shows the parents are increasing their knowledge around appropriate parenting and child development skills and there is growth. However, in some cases when parents were given additional knowledge their confidence went down.

## In what ways will we apply what we have learned from our data?

- Look for other transportation ideas to get parents from Sheridan to the FRC, such as through Thunder Valley Casino and their bus service.
- Based on what the data was telling the Spanish parenting class instructor, continuous improvements are being made. The curriculum has also been altered and there is ongoing improvement, different locations, child care, and curriculum materials. In addition, instead of the course being offered as a 6-week course it is offered on an ongoing basis. This is based on what the data is telling us and input from the counselor.
- The Lighthouse will add columns to the demographic tool to better reflect children served directly and indirectly and to eliminate the overlap of numbers.

#### **Next Steps:**

- Use the updated 2004 Early Childhood Outcomes Screening Form for the next Learning Conversation.
- Add one or two questions to the Spanish language surveys to identify how parents are demonstrating positive parenting skills.
- Next Learning Conversation: Tuesday, July 15, 1:15-4:45 PM